

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 25 and extending through page 11, line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--As shown in Figs. 3 and 4, sides 19 of the universal body include a longitudinally extending guide slot or groove 44 which receives and guides the slide member 32 as shown in Fig. 4. The pivot pin 34 for connecting the first linkage 24 and the second linkage 28 to the slide member 32 is aligned with the piston rod 36 and hydraulic cylinder 38 as illustrated in the figures. Having the linkages 24 and 28 attached to the slide member 32 at a common point in-line with the hydraulic cylinder 38 helps maximize the power and efficiencies of the tool, such as shear 10, while minimizing the detrimental forces acting on the hydraulic cylinder 38. Additionally, the guiding of slide member 32 within a slot 44 resists torsional forces which otherwise disrupt the action of the tool and the operation of the hydraulic cylinder 38. The structure of the slide member 32 is shown in detail in Figs. 4 and 6-7 and will be described in detail below. --